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NEWSLETTER

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"GLORY" OFFICER'S JOURNAL FEATURED AMONG RECENT CIVIL WAR ACCESSIONS

Future West Virginia Adjutant General Was Among the First to Join the 54th Massachusetts Infantry

Since the day that Confederate gunboats first fired upon Fort Sumter in April 1861, the Civil War has held a fascination for Americans which has transcended popular interest in all other episodes in American history. Tales of brother versus brother, death and privation on native soil, and the destruction of a way of life which was glamorous for some but oppressive for many more continue to hold their grip upon our attention today. This fact is amply witnessed by the resounding success of a pair of recent cinematic offerings: Ken Burns' documentary "The Civil War," and the feature film "Glory."

Through historic photographs and narrative, "The Civil War" tells the history of the war from start to finish. It is in effect a monograph in video format, an objective and analytical look at the war drawing upon both contemporary and modern insights.

The film "Glory" has a different purpose. Focused upon the formation and deployment of the Union Army's first Northern black regiment, its goal is to entertain and inform through reenactment. Through the wonders of modern stage technology and cinematography it effectively transports its audience back in time, instilling within the viewer a "feel" for the age which no documentary can hope to achieve.

Neither study is, of course, entirely "authentic". The makers of "Glory" exercised considerable dramatic license in telling their tale, and both films contain editorial and interpretive material that relies heavily upon modern perspectives. For a more penetrating view of Civil War reality one must turn to primary sources—letters, diaries and testimonials—which were written by those who witnessed the conflict firsthand.

A manuscript journal recently donated to the Regional History Collection provides an excellent case in point. Written by John W.M. Appleton, a member of the "Glory" regiment's all-



Massachusetts cadet corps private, and future West Virginia Adjutant General, John W. M. Appleton, June 1862 (left). A page from the Appleton Journal (right).



white officer staff, the journal provides readers with a level of description and insight into Civil War life that only an eyewitness could provide.

Born in Massachusetts in 1833, Appleton descended from an old New England family well-known for its abolitionist views. He attended Harvard Medical School for a time and later received an appointment as assistant librarian at the Boston Public Library. At the outbreak of the war, Appleton enrolled as a private in the Massachusetts Independent Cadet Corps, but his service during the early months of the war was limited to local

guard and escort duty. In April 1862 he was mustered into regular service and sent to garrison at Fort Warren in Boston Harbor.

It was in this same month that General David Hunter of the U.S. Army's Department of the South, acting on his own initiative, organized the first regiment of "colored troops," the "1st Regiment of South Carolina Volunteers." Comprised primarily of "contraband" (freed slaves) from South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, the men of the 1st South Carolina were reportedly treated "like cattle" and dismissed after a number of weeks without pay by order of the War Department. The regiment did, however, set a precedent and provoke a debate within the North which continued until the War Department gave official sanction to the recruitment of African-American troops in August 1862. In the months that followed, as Union losses mounted and white volunteers dwindled, black soldiers became, in President Lincoln's words, "very important, if not indispensable."

On August 25, 1862, General Rufus Saxton of the Department of the South received authorization to "arm, equip, and receive" a force of up to 5,000 "volunteers of African descent" in order to reorganize the 1st South Carolina Volunteers. General Saxton proceeded to rebuild the regiment and selected Colonel T.W.

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Higginson of Massachusetts to assume its command. Colonel Higginson later expressed both surprise and enthusiasm at receiving the commission: "I had been an abolitionist too long, and had known and loved John Brown too well, not to feel the thrill of joy at last on finding myself in the position where he only wished to be."

When Private John W.M. Appleton was mustered out of the regular service in July 1862 he was determined to seek a commission with a black regiment. Seeking the assistance and endorsement of influential family friends and colleagues, he applied in writing to General Saxton for a commission with the 1st South Carolina in the fall of 1862. He followed up his application with a letter to Colonel Higginson in January.

In his letter to Colonel Higginson, Appleton explained his motives:

I am desirous of serving our Country in connection with the colored troops now being raised.... I am induced... by the belief that the two great problems that demand our attention in connection with the freedom of the slave are Firstly, Will the freed-man work for his living- Secondly will he fight for his liberty? I believe that he will do both and I desire to assist him to do the latter...

Appleton's efforts eventually won him a commission as a lieutenant in the 1st South Carolina. But by the time word of the commission reached Boston, he had already been mustered into another unit, the "54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers."

Organized by order of Massachusetts Governor John Andrew, the 54th Massachusetts was considered by virtually all parties to be a bold experiment. To Northern abolitionists the regiment represented an opportunity for African-Americans to prove that they were both willing and equal to the task of fighting for their country and for the freedom of their race. To anti-abolitionists the regiment's certain failure seemed an opportunity to prove the reverse.

Governor Andrew was determined to see that his experiment succeeded, and towards this end he formed a variety of committees to advise, recruit and raise funds to support the new regiment. Included among the committee members and recruiters were men like George L. Stearns, one of the "Secret Six" who had financed John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry, and black activist Frederick Douglass, whose son became a private in Company B.

To lead the 54th, Governor Andrew selected Robert Gould Shaw. The son of influential Boston abolitionists, Shaw was, despite his mere 26 years of age, a tried and true veteran, having served with the 2nd Massachusetts Infantry in some of the bloodiest battles of the early part of the war. Along with Colonel



Two portraits of Col. Robert Gould Shaw, commander of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry. Shaw drafted a letter declining his commission with the 54th before deeper reflection and parental influence induced him to change his mind.

Shaw and his second in command, Major Norwood P. Hallowell, Governor Andrew appointed 2nd Lieutenant John W.M. Appleton as one of the 54th's first officers.

Commissioned on February 9, 1863, Lieutenant Appleton's first assignment was to begin recruitment for a Company A. He opened an office for this purpose on Cambridge Street in Boston and continued in this pursuit for approximately one month before being transferred to Camp Meigs in Readville, Massachusetts. Upon arrival at camp he was placed in command of the company that he had assembled.

Based upon letters written to his family, Appleton's journal forms a meticulous chronicle of his service with the 54th Massachusetts from his arrival at Camp Meigs to his retirement from active duty at the war's end.

Arriving at Camp Meigs in March, he found it to be "a rather unpleasant place" consisting of rough wooden barracks situated amidst a quagmire of mud which had resulted from torrential spring rains. Despite the environment Appleton reported that he and his fellow officers were "Full of enthusiasm" and anxious "to try a most important experiment, an experiment which must not fail."

Spirits remained high as weeks passed and the recruits, many of whom, according to Appleton, were better educated than average white soldiers, learned the craft of soldiering as the world looked on. "Soon fame of our regiment, as a well drilled one spread abroad and our daily dress parades were attended by a throng of people, in carriages and on foot-Some attracted I suppose to see the men who could say with the old Gladiators, 'We who are about to die salute thee.'"

After many weeks of preparation the 54th received orders to move in May. With their precise destination unknown the men were marched to Boston Harbor for ocean transport on the 28th. According to Appleton, the regiment's passage through Boston was a matter of some concern as it was rumored that "the roughs in Boston proposed to attack" the regiment:

...as we passed through Boston and we were ready to

defend ourselves. (I had recruits assaulted when marching them to the mustering office and had been obliged to fight a little to protect them in the month of March so this did not seem so preposterous. Then I had been told by copperhead friends that I was a d—d fool, - that the slave drivers would “come out and crack their whips” and the niggers would run, and I would be butchered... But when May 28th came & we breaking camp at an early hour went into Boston, what an ovation awaited us[;] extra trains had been run ..and the city was full. We paraded on the common & marched through many streets amid blessings, shouts and some tears,- strangers clasped our hands and blessed us.

On June 3, after six days of boredom punctuated by bouts of seasickness, the 54th Massachusetts reached the shores of South Carolina. After several more days of monotony, camped in a cotton field where insects and rattlesnakes formed the enemy, the regiment embarked for the coast of Georgia. On St. Simon's Island they rendezvoused with Colonel James Montgomery's “contraband” regiment, the 2nd South Carolina, and joined forces in a raid on the port city of Darien. Marching into the town virtually unopposed, Colonel Shaw issued the following orders to Captain Appleton:

“Capt. Appleton, take twenty men from the right of your company, break into the houses on this street, take out anything that can be made useful in camp.” ...I came to an elegant house surrounded by fine grounds, filled with fine trees, and flowers-noticeably the Pomegranite - There were many pigs and chickens in the grounds-An old negro bowing low said he was “glad Marsa had come.” Going through the house... Col. Shaw and I met in one room, and sadly gazed at the portraits etc doomed to the flames... When I reached the shore I found the Colonel indignant at our having to burn the town, thinking that its destruction was simply under order from Montgomery. He afterwards ascertained where the order came from. The heat in passing the burning town was tremendous and it started the pitch in the seams of our old vessel. The suspicious places were shelled on the way back, and the reserve camp of the rebels reported as discovered and shelled. As for me I did not see a rebel...I never want to see a Northern town sacked and burned. All night long the flames shone against the sky.

The 54th remained in Georgia until June 25, when they were ordered back to Hilton Head to support the coming assault on Charleston.

The regiment's purpose, Appleton noted, much to his irritation, was to “stay here and make raids to distract the attention of our Southern friends while the attack is made on Charleston”. He and the other men of the 54th were anxious to prove themselves in battle. Colonel Shaw ardently pressed his superiors for “better service than mere guerilla warfare.”

On the morning of July 11, General Quincy Gillmore, successor to General Hunter as head of the Department of the South, began the Federal attack on Charleston. The initial object of the

assault was Fort Wagner, one of the several forts and batteries that protected the entrance to Charleston Harbor. After a heavy bombardment, Union infantry charged the fort but were repulsed with heavy losses.

Assigned to the diversionary forces, the 54th Massachusetts spent most of the day aboard ship waiting to disembark upon nearby James Island. When news of the failed charge against Fort Wagner reached the regiment it was presumed that direct attack would be abandoned in favor of siege operations. But no order to retreat came and for the next few days the 54th sat tight on James Island in line of battle ready to fight alongside white regiments for the first time.

At dawn on the 16th a force of nearly 1,000 Confederates attacked the Union's James Island position. Approximately 250 soldiers from the 54th Massachusetts checked their advance long enough for Federal troops to rally and begin an orderly retreat. When the Confederates mysteriously broke off their attack the 54th retreated with the rest of the Union forces and made a difficult single file night march across a narrow boardwalk leading from James Island to Cole Island. Arriving at their destination in the early morning, the regiment collapsed on the beach and slept the day away oblivious to sunlight, insects and hunger. (Appleton noted that according to Colonel Montgomery, a good soldier “should be able to live three days on the smell of an oiled rag, and to roost on a clothes line”.)



A birds-eye view of Charleston Harbor from a contemporary newspaper. Fort Wagner (#13) is pictured at the lower center of this photo. Fort Sumter (#10) and the City of Charleston are depicted at middle and upper center respectively.

That night the 54th was ferried to Folly Island, marched its length, ferried across another inlet to Morris Island and marched within sight of Fort Wagner. Reporting to General George C. Strong, whom he had repeatedly pressed for battle assignment, Shaw was informed that a second infantry assault upon Fort Wagner had been ordered. He was asked if the 54th Massachusetts would accept the honor of leading the attack. Shaw responded affirmatively, and several hours later led his regiment into a battle that definitively demonstrated the ability and courage of the African-American soldier. Unfortunately, it was a costly demonstration. Of the 600 members of the 54th Massachusetts engaged, nearly half were killed, wounded or captured. Colonel Shaw was among the dead.

Captain Appleton was one of the relatively few officers who survived the assault on Fort Wagner, though not without sustaining wounds which were sufficient to remove him from service for more than three months. Subsequent entries in his journal reveal his mixed emotions at returning to Fort Wagner several months later after its capture and standing on the ground where he had seen so many of his comrades die.

Appleton continued to serve with the 54th, rising to the rank of major, until he was disabled by acute sunstroke during a battle just a few miles from Fort Wagner in July 1864. Returning to Massachusetts he was discharged before he was fully recovered. He spent the final months of the war as a major in the First Battalion of Artillery in the Massachusetts Volunteers.

For unclear reasons, Major Appleton and his family moved to the fledgling state of West Virginia at the war's end. Among his papers is an August 16, 1865 letter of recommendation for Appleton from the Adjutant General of Massachusetts to the Adjutant General of West Virginia. In the ensuing years Appleton engaged in the production of coal oil in Charleston, served as an agent for a Boston gun powder firm, and became a partner in a flour milling company. Remaining active in the military he received commissions as captain, major and colonel in the West Virginia Militia and National Guard as the years passed. Records show that he also served as a Kanawha County school commissioner.

In May 1882 the Appletons left Charleston in favor of Monroe County. Settling permanently in Salt Sulphur Springs, Colonel Appleton served as proprietor and secretary-treasurer of the Salt Sulphur Springs resort, pursued farming, and was appointed as the town's postmaster.

On March 4, 1897, Gov. George W. Atkinson appointed John W.M. Appleton to the position of Adjutant General of West Virginia. Appleton's four years of service in this regard are detailed in the official reports of his administration. In one such report General Appleton stated his goal as commanding general:

"Holding the opinion that a National Guard should always be considered from the standpoint of use by the Nation or State, it is and has been my endeavor to do everything possible to prepare and equip ours towards that end."

Instituting a regimen of strict physical examinations for all volunteers, developing rigorous new standards for officers and fully equipping the battalions for the first time, in 1901 as his term came to an end, General Appleton was able to report that the "Guardsmen are ready to move". Considering Appleton's experience and character, there can be little doubt that he meant it.

John W. M. Appleton, survivor of one of the most perilous episodes in military history, died in September 1913 after being gored by a bull on his Monroe County farm.

"ASSAULT ON FORT WAGNER"

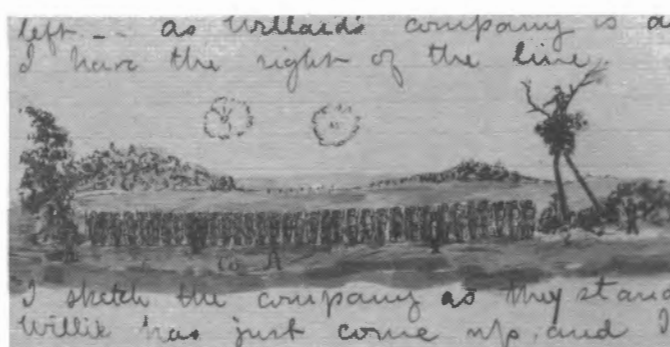
An unabridged excerpt from the Journal of John W.M. Appleton.

James Is July 16, 1863

Writing with the Rebel shell tearing over us, and bursting just behind us, as we stand in line of battle. Capts Willard, Simpkins

and Cabot Russell, were driven in from Picket this morning with some loss. Cabot now stands near me and says "remember me to the baby", as he sees me writing. - The first shell or two, my boys ducked their heads. They now stand grandly, talking quietly, (I do not duck myself.) I am holding the paper on one hand as I write, and that makes the penmanship poor as you see. - We are standing in a marshy place with a lot of small pine trees and brush on our right, and the road lined with trees on our left. - As Willard's company is away I have the right of the line.

I sketch the company as they stand. Willie has just come up, and I have put a sergeant and a few men out on the right to prevent surprise. And Willie and I have been taking turns, climbing the little trees near our right, to get a look forward, and see the enemy[.] This is the way the whole line looked from the tree, where I sketched it. -

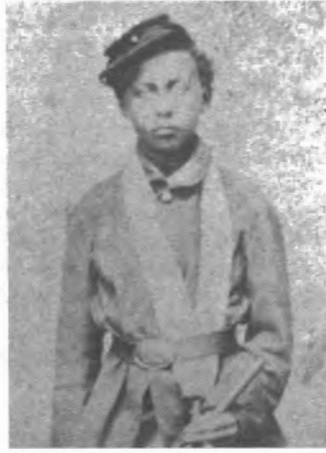


The Rebels have the range of the road on my left, beautifully, and shell and cannister make the air musical overhead. - Now we are ordered forward, and the Rebel fire decreases, and the gunboats are heard opening a splendid fire, though they did hit one of our own men. The Rebel shell killed some artillery horses and mortally wounded some men behind me, but not one of my men was scratched though Gover had his pantaloons cut by a fragment of shell. When the word forward came, we advanced in line, to the line of outposts, the enemy falling back rapidly before us. - so that we saw but few of them as we advanced. - As we marched up to the front, stretchers kept passing us, with our poor boys, killed and wounded, on them. - Then we came to the spot where the Rebel Artillery had been posted and there was the horse of the Captain of their battery, torn to pieces by one of our shells, which killed their Captain.

The lines of march of their different columns could be plainly seen in the trampled grass and weeds, and all along the route we found bread, haversacks etc. dropped by them. It seems by the newspapers which we found in a killed officers baggage, that they had made up their minds that they could only save Charleston by driving us off with the bayonet. - So they sallied out, Nine thousand strong. It is said, infantry, artillery and cavalry. Some regiments were said to be just from Richmond. - We took prisoners from four different Regiments, and found dead of another one. - We had but three companies of ours closely engaged, our loss is probably less than fifty. - We have in our hands twenty six, killed and wounded. And the nature of the



"Henry Munroe, Drummer Co. C, 54th Massachusetts"



"Miles Moore, Drummer Co. H, 54th Massachusetts"

ground prevented our finding all of the bodies. One sergeant, Wilson of Co. H from Chicago, made a splendid fight. He had always said he would never surrender, killed at least three of the enemy in hand to hand fight, and was after fighting their cavalry for a long time with his bayonet. - shot in the leg cut down with a sabre, and his brains blown out. - Where his body lay the weeds and grass were trampled down for a space of twenty yards square.

Capt. Simpkins and Tom Appleton were way up in front and behaved admirably. - Simpkins was hit in his clothes, one ball passing through his trousers leg and his drawers, and another through his rubber coat.

A Cavalry officer, made at Cabot as he was conducting the retreat of one of his platoons, and made two cuts at him. One of Cabots men (Preston Melianis) caught the Rebel with his bayonet in the neck and firing, blew his head to pieces. - A light haired fair complexioned young fellow a member of the Charleston Cadets, it was said, was brought in with their dead he seemed not more than seventeen. It was sad to see him with his little boyish face. - he was shot in the breast with a musket. The Rebels took most of their killed and wounded off.

While in the advanced position we buried those we found. The Rebels were very bright and bold, they ran a battery down within one hundred and fifty yards of the Pawnee, under cover of the brush and hit her fifty two times, before she could reply to advantage. - Her Captain had looped his Chain cables along her sides over her engines, and that saved his ship. I had been sleeping on the ground in our bivouac, when, just as I was dreaming of home, and just as day broke, came the bang of the field pieces and the rattle of the muskets, and the cry to "fall in". - We were up and in line in a hurry. - The 10th Conn [Connecticut] was on picket on our left, and they say that our boys saved them by standing so stubbornly. When we came to our old picket posts, we found the men dead or wounded lying where they were posted. - We have brought in and buried eight bodies of our men. - One was found way out in the Marsh late in the day, with his ears and eyelids apparently cut off. The men were indignant with the poor Rebels - for a while, until we found the mutilators to be the little fiddler crabs, who had eaten off the missing members.

I went down the road and saw where Tom Appleton, and the other officers, had rallied the reserves and fired, the cartridge papers lay in good lines where the stands had been made, showing that they were cool. - Pickets were reestablished, and we spent most of the day at the old house, with our reserves, talking over the incidents of the day. It was pleasing to us to see the Connecticut boys coming over to thank our men for their good fighting. - We suffer for good water, that we are using [is] taken

from horse ponds, covered with a green scum, is almost coffee colored and has a taste that coffee cannot disguise.

The John Adams, an old East Boston ferry boat with a parrot gun on her, was coming up from Folly Island with a lot of Invalids, officers servants, etc. they manned the gun and running up on the left flank of the enemy did good service with their shell.

At night, orders came to withdraw the forces under Gen. Terry from James Island. And after dark we commenced our march to Cole Island, by land, over narrow dikes and bridges. It seemed as if the bridges were miles long, they were mostly of three planks but sometimes one and sometimes another, would be missing. The night was pitch dark, and rainy, blinding flashes of lightning only made it worse, as we tramped through the slippery mud, and over the treacherous planks, I could only keep with the leading company by holding on to the last sergeant of it, and my orderly kept one hand on me. The muttered curses, growling and the stumbling of the seven hundred weary men, cannot be described. Once in a while we halted to let the rear companies close up, and when we did so everybody dropped down in the mud and went to sleep.

Sometimes my uneasy cat-naps were broken by finding two or three men lying across me. When the order forward march came, we started again occasionally some luckless fellow would slip off a bridge and have to be hauled out of the water below. Some men were severely hurt by these falls. My Sergeant Saunders among them. I lost no men, but one musket was left in one of the creeks. Just at daylight we reached Cole Island and threw ourselves on the sand. Here we tried to clean ourselves up, and remained all day, just opposite Folly Island. - When night came we had pickets out on the way by which we had come, and we had several false alarms which put us in line of battle. - The ground had been occupied as a camp the year before, and in moving my Company in the dark, I fell into a well just catching by my arms. - My boys soon pulled me out. We got an hours troubled rest, and then in a tremendous rain were transferred in small boats to a steamer, which took us over to Folly Island. We commenced embarking about twelve oclock, but did not get all on board and over to Folly until daybreak. The boats could take but thirty men at a time to the "Gen. Hunter". We disembarked on Folly Island, and commenced a march up it. We were out of food. - As we passed through the camps, it was pleasant to see the white soldiers run out to praise, and cheer, our boys, for their good stand on the 16th. All day as we marched, we heard the guns going on Morris



"Assault on Fort Wagner, Charleston Harbour, on the night of July 18—The rush of the garrison to the parapet" from a contemporary newspaper clipping in the Appleton Journal.

Island and from the fleet. At one place I saw a box of hard bread that the waves had cast up. I broke it open and got what I could for my men.

When we reached the upper end of the Island, we had a long wait on the sand, and were then marched on board the steamer "Harriet A. Weed" to be ferried across Light House inlet. We sat down on the deck and a kind hearted officer of the boat gave several of us a drink of ice water apiece, which was delightful. They told us that the colors had been shot down from Fort Wagner. - Major Ned quietly said to me, as he sat by me, "I wonder how many of us will be here tomorrow night." After a while we crossed, we could see Sumter, looming up across the Island, and in the fore ground the breastworks from which brave Gen. Strong and his men, had driven the Rebels a few days ago.

We sat down on the sand to wait our orders, near me Surgeon Stone had some stretchers. As we sat there we talked of trifles, and every body seemed perfectly cool and calm. After a while, we were ordered forward and commenced our march up the sandy road, in the middle of the island[.] We passed the light house blown up by the Rebels, and earthworks taken from them, and after passing the sand hills came out on a more level expanse of sand, near the old Beacon house. Before us, we could still see Fort Sumter looming up, nearer, on the island were earthworks, and Ft Wagner. As soon as we were perceived by the Rebels they commenced firing solid shot at us, apparently 32 pounders, they struck in front of us and ricocheted over us. We were marching by the flank right in front, that is in columns of four men abreast, Co B in front and my Company A behind them - we moved forward under this harmless fire, until we reached our batteries, which were playing on Wagner, and turning to the right passed round them on to the beach. Just as we did so a shell from the enemy exploded at one of the guns and over the smoke I saw a man's cap fly high in the air. After passing well in front of the batteries, we were formed in line by wing. - that is, half the Regiment in the front line, and the other half in line behind them. - Our arms were loaded, but by order no caps were put on the guns. We were then ordered to lie down. Before us, the Island narrowed to a strip of sand with the harbor of Charleston on our right and an inlet on our left. - The first line or wing was under immediate command of the Colonel, the second one under charge of Major Hallowell.

The line officers were all in their places, in the rear of their companies, mostly lying down with their men. Some however moved about a little and talked in low tones with each other.

We told each other where our letters were in our pockets, and asked that they be sent home in case we did not come out of the fight. - Gen Strong came in front of the Regiment, and addressed the men - telling them that he was a Massachusetts man, and that he knew they would uphold the honor of the old State. He was a noble figure, and his words were applauded by the men, I think we all loved him at first sight. - As the cannon shot flew over us he said "boys don't mind them, they have been firing at me all day and could not hit me." He asked who was the color sergeant, and then asked who would pick up the flag, and carry it on in case he should be hit or fall. Several voices answered "I." Colonel Shaw who stood near him took his cigar from his lips and said quietly "I will". Gen Strong said he was sorry that we must go in to the fight tired, and hungry, as we were, - but the enemy were tired and hungry, too, as they had been under heavy fire all day. "Don't fire a musket on the way up, but go in and bayonet them at their guns." Our little Colonel to outward appearance as calm as ever, walked

slowly up and down in front of the lines. I believe he told Ned Hallowell, our Major, that he thought he would not come out of the fight, but would be contented if he could have lived a little longer with his wife. Whom he had married just before he left the State. No one from his appearance could have told that a single apprehension of danger to himself was in his thoughts. When he came down to our end of the line, he once stood and looked fixedly at me. I was the only officer standing up at the time. It seemed as if he was about to speak, but he did not. He wore a round jacket, with silver eagles pinned on his shoulders, a cap and his short stature and fair hair and face beardless except for a moustache made him look very boyish.

Willie James, our Adjutant, came up to me and said "We have the most magnificent chance to prove the valor of the colored race now." And as he spoke accidentally discharged his revolver - the Colonel looked round at us and Willie said, "I would not have had that happen for anything." Soon the declining day brought the early darkness, and the word came to rise, and forward. We moved at quick time, with fixed bayonets. All this time the guns of the fleet and shore batteries had been thundering away. "Prove yourselves men," said the Colonel, as we started. Our

lines were about sixteen hundred yards from the fort. As we advanced, fire was opened upon us, the strip of land over which we charged was varying in width. Now we had plenty of room, and now our lines were crowded together by the water on either side. Besides, the fire of Wagner, Fort Johnson, and the batteries on James Island, Cummings Point, Sumter, Moultrie, and Sullivan's Island Batteries played on us. The order was to move at quick time to within one hundred yards of the Fort and then charge at the double. We came to a line of shattered palisades, how we passed them we can hardly tell. Then we passed over some rifle pits, and I can dimly remember seeing some men in them, over whom we ran.

The fire became terrible[.] shell, canister, and musket balls tore through us. Jones' Co, in the second line, which was behind, closed up on

us in their excitement, and Willie was busy beating them back. The terrible war deafened us, as we pressed on, at last, we reached the moat of the fort. - The sky had become black with clouds, and the thunder cracked and lightning flashed. - As we reached the ditch some one gave an order "by the right flank[!]", and Co. B on my right, apparently filed off that way. My company preserved its alignment and the two cannonades in the bastions at that instant were fired, the one on the right, tearing the right of the company to pieces killing Sergeant Benton, and others, and almost at the same instant, a like disaster fell upon the left of the company from the bastion on our left. I could hear the rattle of the balls on the men & arms. I was in front of the company and leaped down into the water, followed by all the men left standing. On my left the Colonel with the colors, and the men of the companies on the left, waded across abreast with me, we reached the base of the curtain and climbed up the parapet, our second battalion right with us. On the top of the work we met the Rebels, and by the flashes of their guns we looked down into the fort. Apparently a sea of bayonets, some eight or ten feet below us. The Colonel planted the colors on the traverse [var. of traverse], next [to] the service magazine on the left of the curtain and the fighting was now about them. In my immediate front the enemy were very brave and met us eagerly. Bayonets musket butts - revolvers and swords and musket shots were all used, but our small number and our disadvantage in being up against the sky told heavily. The

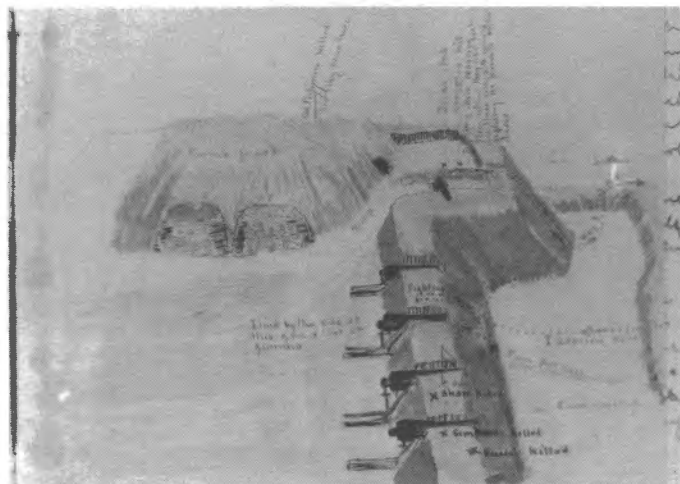


"John Wilson, Sergeant Major, 54th Massachusetts Volunteers."

men rapidly thinning out around me. I received a sword thrust through my blouse but it fortunately passed between my legs. About this time I saw our colors fall, rise again and go back through the water of the ditch, borne by some one. Finding it impossible to hold the crest of the parapet, we were so near the enemy as to be able almost to touch them, and they were able to use cannon rammers and handspikes in the melee. - We withdrew our diminished numbers to the outer slope of the parapet, - hoping to hold it until our second brigade came up, and continued the fight as best we could. In the left bastion the enemy rallied and opened in enfilading fire with muskets upon us. Not one man stood on the parapet when I left it. All down the exterior slope, as well as on the top, lay the bodies of our men. And behind us in the water of the moat, the poor fellows bodies lay like stepping stones. If we cannot take the Fort unaided, our duty is to hold what little we have gained until the attack of the Brigade behind us, and to keep if possible the enemy from firing their cannons upon our advancing troops. To that task we bent our energies. Cpts. Pope and Jones, and Lieut. Emerson, who had just been assigned to my company, and myself, with a crowd of our men of all companies perhaps fifty in number now commenced firing at every rebel who showed himself - We picked up the muskets of the fallen but found many ineffective from being filled with sand. The coolness and bravery of these officers and men was very marked.

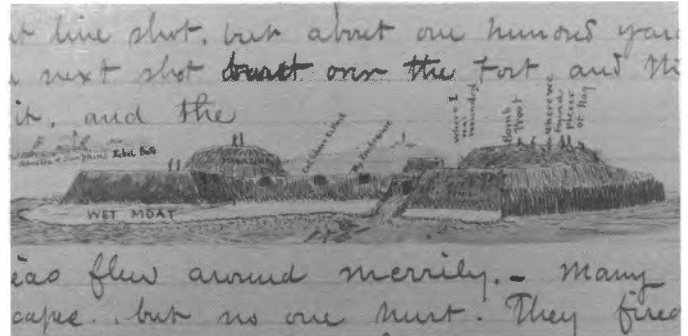
The enemy were particularly troublesome from their bastion on our left. One man in particular with a broad brimmed hat hit some one of our men every time he fired. I ordered a Sergt to pick him off, but he could not, so Capt. Pope and I fired at him at the same time when he next showed himself, and he disappeared, and we saw no more of him. A wounded soldier of my company lay with his back against the fort, his broken arm across his body, he was taking cartridges from his box tearing them out laying them on his wounded arm for Lieut. Emerson, who was doing good work with a musket. Emerson but 17 yrs old and as brave as a little lion. Most of our officers were very young. Pope but 19 - Poor Captain Russell but 18, etc. One of my men chafing at fighting so on the defensive, despite my order to keep still, where he was, said he would go up and kill another one and climbed up to the top of the parapet again, he fired and immediately rolled down right over me, a corpse.

Leaving Pope, Jones, and Emerson, who are doing manful service, I crawl half way into an embrasure in front of the gun, marked S in the plan, and with my heavy revolver keep the men



Appleton's journal contains several detailed sketches of the interior and exterior of Fort Wagner which illustrate details of his narrative. This sketch shows Appleton's route of entry to and exit from the fort and marks the location where Colonel Shaw was killed.

from firing it. As they get up to prime it they are within a few feet and all in sight when I fire, they disappear. After being there for sometime despite their efforts to dislodge me with bayonet, shot, and clubbed muskets, I feel somebody tugging at my legs. So I crawl back and find Geo. Wilson of my company, who though shot through both shoulders will not go [to] the rear without leave. I tell him what I think is the best way to get out, and then find that Pope has fallen, apparently dead, and there are but three officers of the 54th standing and no men. While we hesitate we hear fighting going on in the bastion on our right, and skirting the wall we climb up into it, and find a few of the 48th N York and some other Regiments fighting over a traverse, we join them and take part. Just before leaving our old position I found my Revolver cylinder would not turn, as it was full of sand. - I took it apart cleaned it on my blouse skirt and reloaded.

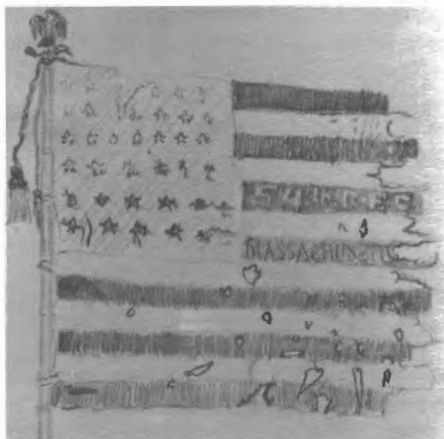


Another view of Fort Wagner

Where we now were we had a stubborn lot of men to contend against and others were firing on us from the bomb proof, - When the enemy laid their muskets on the traverse to fire at us, the muzzles project on our side, and we shoot them hardly an arms length away. I shoot one who catches the sand bags as he falls, thinking he is about to recover, I cock the pistol, and present it again. A grenade bursts and nearly cuts my thumb off, and the pistol twirls round on my fore finger. - Just at that moment Capt Jones falls heavily against me and before he can answer my question of "Ned are you hurt." a piece of shell strikes me in the right back a crushing blow, and lays me beside him. - For a moment the whole dark scene disappears, and I see my wife's face apparently close to me, - soon I get my scattered senses together, and find that my rubber coat which I had worn in a roll across my right shoulder has been cut nearly in two, that I have a hole in my blouse from which the blood flows, and I cautiously probe the wound in my breast with my finger, thinking the missile had gone into my chest. - I find that the bones grate and give way under the pressure, but that there is no free hole in the chest, and that it is only some broken ribs. My breath came with great pain but I tried to shoot with my left hand, but the pain was too great and so I laid down again.

Capt. Jones laid silent with his feet towards our lines. - A soldier of the 48th New York wounded, laid across the embrasure and I lay with my head on his leg. - Soon bullets began to come from our lines, and fall thickly among us. I asked Emerson, who was still fighting with a musket, to get a sand bag off the parapet to shelter Jones. - He tried but could not and reported "Hornets too thick to do it, Captain". The soldier, whose leg my head rested on, had been groaning a good deal. Now a bullet strikes him, he draws up his limbs and is silent forever.

This firing on us from the rear must be stopped and I order Lieut. Emerson to go to the rear and report our position, and ask for reinforcements. The brave fellow says, "I will go if ordered, but I am the only one unwounded, and if I am killed and you get



The flag of the 54th Massachusetts after the attack on Fort Wagner.

out tell them I went by orders and not because I was afraid."

Thinking that he was doing good service, I concluded to try and go myself, so I tied my sword in the sheath, and buttoned my revolver in its place and crept to the opening in [the] parapet. The face of the work was swept by a hail of bullets, as I slid down to the water

spent ones struck me like stones. Soon I felt the dead under my feet in the edge of the water and I stumbled, along towards the harbor, beach, and after several efforts managed to get up out of the ditch, and out upon the beach.

From the Rebel Forts shells came screaming down the beach. - Wounded men crawl, or hobble back towards our lines. - And many dead lie along the sand. - After going some distance down the beach I turn to the right thinking that our troops that had been firing on so must be near. I am in great pain but the firing on us must be stopped, and I go across the Island in front of the Fort. There is a steady fire of musketry from the Fort and shells of all sizes are bursting all around. I go to the edge of the Marsh but find no troops, except here and there a straggler behind a sand heap. Then going back to the beach and lower down, I try it again. Still I find no troops. Coming back to the beach, I meet a mounted officer, with his staff. To him I tell my story. That "we hold one bastion of the Fort and if reinforced can probably take it" and that I will go back with the fresh troops. - I am holding by his horses mane while I talk to him. He asks me if I am wounded, and then, orders me to report to a Surgeon and points me to a dim light down the beach, and says he will go up to the fort and see to it. So I start down the beach again. Soon I come to Tom Appleton, and two more of our officers with our colors and perhaps sixty of our men. - I speak to them, and then go to the surgeon[.] He examines me and orders me down to a hospital below. Just after I leave him some one fires a musket at me from the sand hillocks, on my right. I go towards him but cannot find him. Then I find some wounded men halted on the beach, and see flashes of guns and hear bullets whistle by. An officer with a broken arm, and faint with loss of blood, tells me that he has tried to pass the line but they fire at him. Some bodies lie before us of men that they have shot. We try to pass together and fortunately meet an officer. Asking what their firing on us means, they say they are to stop stragglers. I tell him that certainly does not mean wounded men ordered to Hospital. - He then passes us, and we soon reach some hospital tents. I am made to lie down, and given a cup of coffee. Where I laid down on the sand a body had just been removed. Soon a new lot of wounded are brought in and some of us who can walk, are picked up, and started down the beach to a hospital boat, as I reach the beach an artillery driver, with two horses meets me and offers to take me along with him on one of his pair of horses. He helps me on but the motion of the horse hurts my broken ribs, so that I beg to get down and he transfers me to a passing ambulance, which takes me to the steamboat, helped up the gang plank, the passengers in the ambulance find themselves on a crowded boat. I am taken into the cabin and shown a place on the floor where I can

lie down next to Adjutant James, and near Capt Willard. The seats around the sides of the cabin, and the carpeted floor are covered with wounded officers. - Our Major Hallowell, lies on the floor near the stairs that lead below. Outside the cabin, the decks are covered with soldiers with every variety of wounds. I do not think we talked much. The surgeons moved round among us dressing wounds and I think gave us all opiates. At any rate I went off into a dead sleep and when I woke it was morning and we were out to sea. ■

THE FALL OF FORT SUMTER

Three Views from the Appleton Journal



The attack upon Fort Wagner was just a preliminary step towards the capture of Charleston Harbor. Fort Sumter, situated upon an island within the harbor itself, would prove to be an even more formidable obstacle. Federal forces tried in vain — by siege, bombardment and direct attack — to take the fort for nearly two years before it was evacuated when Confederate forces withdrew from Charleston in February 1865. Reproduced above are three views of the fort including: 1. a sketch of the fort as it appeared to Appleton in November 1863; 2. a photo taken approximately six months later; and 3. a photo of the fort's interior after its evacuation.

OTHER NEW CIVIL WAR COLLECTIONS

The journal of J.W.M. Appleton is just one of many outstanding Civil War items which have been acquired by the Regional History Collection in recent months. Other important accessions include three sets of soldiers' letters: the Aten, Headley, and William K. Smith collections; the Pittenger Family letters which give a largely civilian perspective on the war; a Union officer's journal and the historical records of a West Virginia chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Examined collectively, these acquisitions provide insight into all facets of the Civil War era—military, political, and social—and help place regional developments into the national perspective.

The Aten Family Civil War Papers focus upon an Illinois family with western Virginia roots. Although this family, like many other American families of the nineteenth century, moved westward, the ties which the family maintained with its home state are quite apparent. James Aten became deeply concerned about the secession of Virginia from the Union in the spring of 1861. While visiting his native state, Aten joined the Union Army, and before leaving for training camp he wrote, "It's an awful predicament the Republicans and abolitionists have got us into[,] but Governor Letcher & the [secession] convention has sold Virginia to Jeff Davis & co."

Aten complained about army life and the Union leadership. However, he reenlisted and was eventually captured by the Confederates. During his stay at the parolee camp at Annapolis, he wrote to his brother, "We was treated tolerably by the rebs but did not get very much to eat and I have no desire to take another trip to Richmond."

James' nephews, John and Henry, also wrote letters that are part of this collection. These men joined the 85th Illinois Infantry and saw service in the war's western theater. The letters note the battles at Murfreesboro and Chickamauga, and the march through Georgia. The brothers related stories of short supplies, foraging for food and clothes, and the dangers of Confederate deserters behind Union lines. Henry told of one of the many diversions from the peril and hardship of army life, however, as he wrote, "our regt. & the 52d Ohio had a grand snow ball fight in which our regt. beat them bad[,] charging them in to their own quarters. Snow balling is a fine sport when about one thousand blue coats get at in good earnest."

The Pittenger Family was related to the Atens, and their papers offer a few insights into the lives of Union soldiers but mostly give a civilian perspective on the Civil War and related political events in Virginia. Abraham Pittenger, the primary

correspondent, was an anchor to his extended family and wrote to its members from his Hancock County home. A justice of the peace and township official, Pittenger was a staunch Republican and frequently expressed his political views. Upon the birth of a friend's son in November 1860, he advised, "I think you had better call him Abraham Lincoln."

During the Secession Crisis in April 1861, Pittenger wrote, "You are aware no doubt that our State Convention has declared us as no more one of the United States of America[.] We the people of North Western Va. will hold a convention in Wheeling the 13th of May and declare our independence from our masters in the East. Then what the result will be God only knows."

Three letters in the collection are from William Pittenger, a lieutenant in the Union Army. Pittenger participated in a raid against Confederate rail lines near Chattanooga, and in 1863, he wrote a book about the expedition entitled *Daring and Suffering: A History of the Great Railroad Adventure*.

The Riel, Van Leer, and Elliot families of Wood County are represented in the Pauline M. Headley Collection. David Riel, John G. Riel, and Newton Van Leer belonged to the Fifteenth West Virginia Infantry. Their letters tell of the hazards and deprivations of camp life and concerns for those at home. In one vivid letter, David Riel described the results of camp boredom: "They was a man got drunk and laid on the railrode track and the cars cut off both of his lages [legs]...and he dide [died] in two [h]ours after wards and they was another man shot his finger off... another man got drunk...and went to the river and fell in it."

The collection also gives information about soldiers' participation in politics. In March 1863, David Riel wrote, "We had a election here for the new state...they was about fo[u]r hunder voted againce it and they was none in our compt. [company] but what voted for it and I hope they will all vote for it."

The correspondents provide interesting views on the end of the war. Newton Van Leer commented in March 1865, "they is talk now that General Sheridan has got Linch Burg [Lynchburg][.] If that is true the Rebs has all of their crackers cut off. I think that they are about plaid [played] out... They is some deserters comes in everyday. All that comes over now has their guns and we get them and pay them for their guns. I think this war will be over this spring."

Another Ohio Valley soldier was William K. Smith of Tyler County. Smith belonged to the Fourteenth West Virginia Infantry. While the collection of his family's papers contains only nine Civil War items, those items are quite revealing. Smith belonged



The State of West Virginia awarded this Civil War medal to Christena Smith of Tyler County in honor of her husband, William K. Smith, who died while in Union service. In 1868, the State authorized 26,000 medals for Union veterans and their survivors.

VISITING COMMITTEE

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to a pro-Union militia company at the beginning of the war, and the collection includes rosters from that unit. Smith volunteered for the army in August 1862 and saw extensive action. His letters cover a variety of topics from military rumors and battle results to home life and politics. One letter reflects fears of a possible labor shortage due to the impending military draft. Smith warned his wife, "In regard to your farming you had better git your ploughing done as soon as possible for there is going to be a draft [for] certain."

Smith also commented about the presidential election of 1864 in his last letter to his wife. He wrote, "There was a vote taken in the 14 [Fourteenth West Virginia Infantry] yesterday for presadent[.] Abe got all but 8 votes so McClenan [McClellan] cant come in...there is one thing sure[,] the soldiers are a going almost to a man for Abe."

Smith was captured shortly after he wrote his final letter of this collection and died of pneumonia in the Confederate prison at Salisbury, North Carolina, in February 1865. In March 1863, he had written to his wife and said, "it may be the last time that I will ever git to see any of you and I want you to raise the children right and give them good learning and I want you to live right and I will try and do the same and if we never meet on earth any more I hope that we will meet in heaven."

The George K. Campbell Diary is the most significant of all of these collections. Campbell was a Union officer from Athens County, Ohio, along the West Virginia border. The journal begins in the Winchester, Virginia, area just before the Gettysburg Campaign. It describes a flurry of activity in which his regiment participated during Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania. Campbell also gives a broader perspective of the war than the private soldiers and is quite detailed in all of his entries. Particularly good accounts are given of his visits to Columbus, Ohio, Washington, New York, and of travel on railroads.

The archives of the General Jenkins Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in Parkersburg provide valuable secondary information on the Civil War. The collection contains an abundance of genealogical material, family accounts of the war, and military lore. At a time when new discoveries of Confederate historical materials in West Virginia have become more infrequent, this acquisition makes previously hidden records of individual wartime service available and reveals the history of one of the many Civil War veterans' and lineage groups which continued into the twentieth century. The collection provides a bridge between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries which makes it a fitting capstone to our recent group of Civil War accessions.

CAN YOU FIND YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTOR?

The answer to this question is—Yes! And it may be much easier than you suspect. The West Virginia Collection has a variety of materials that help researchers to identify Civil War soldiers in their families, and the Collection is constantly obtaining new records from the war.

Beginners will want to start with the Collection's card catalog. A name index of Union soldiers in West Virginia regiments

exists and will guide researchers to more in-depth sources that are categorized according to regiment. The card catalog will also direct patrons to books, pamphlets, maps, and newspapers on the Civil War, and Charles Shetler's *West Virginia Civil War Literature* provides a descriptive listing of those materials as well as articles and broadsides. It might be helpful to acquire a general knowledge of the war, and we recommend the following works in our Collection: *The Civil War in West Virginia* by Stan Cohen, *A Banner in the Hills* by George E. Moore, and *West Virginia in the Civil War* by Boyd B. Stutler. General works with a national orientation may be found in Wise Library and include *Civil War and Reconstruction* by James G. Randall and David Donald, *Battle Cry of Freedom* by James M. McPherson, and Reid Mitchell's *Civil War Soldiers*, which delves into the day-to-day lives of common soldiers.

County histories, which usually list Civil War soldiers from the counties, and specialized books are also found in the card catalog. Some of the most often used source books for Civil War ancestors include *Confederate Military History* and *Loyal West Virginia from 1861 to 1865*. A number of regimental histories and Civil War histories of counties also exist. Some of these were printed as theses or dissertations or as articles in county historical society journals. One of the most recently produced sources is the invaluable Virginia Regimental Histories Series. Another source of Confederate ancestors is the article "Confederate Soldiers of West Virginia" in the 1931-33 report of the West Virginia Department of Archives and History.

Several primary sources have proven to be popular with researchers. The 1890 Census provided lists of Union veterans and their widows. A detailed record of Union soldiers and their military service is found in the National Archives' Union Volunteers of West Virginia Regiments (A&M 3059) and the West Virginia Adjutant General's West Virginia Civil War Records (A&M 3138) and Burial and Cemetery Records (A&M 3137). The Adjutant General's records contain information for members of Unionist militia, home guard, and scout units as well as volunteer and exempt regiments that entered Federal service. Similarly detailed records for Confederate troops exists in the Virginia State Library's Confederate Service Records of Virginia Soldiers. All of the above primary materials are on microfilm at the West Virginia Collection.

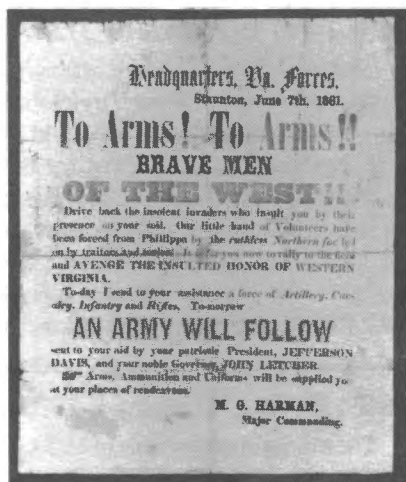
For those with more time to spend on research, the archives and manuscript collections offer specific genealogical and historical information. A myriad of letters and diaries from both Union and Confederate soldiers and officers has been collected through the years. The major subjects and names that are dealt with in these collections have been indexed, and inventories are available for major collections. So, the opportunity to discover your West Virginia Civil War ancestor awaits you at the West Virginia Collection.

CIVIL WAR BROADSIDES IN THE WEST VIRGINIA COLLECTION

Broadsides—posters and handbills in all sizes and colors—contain a wealth of information about local reactions to pressing issues such as Secession and the Civil War. They are often over-

looked as research sources, however, and presumed to be useful merely for illustrative purposes. The following list of Civil War broadsides in the West Virginia Collection includes the authors, titles, and publication data, when available. The topic of each broadside is given in brackets. The list furnishes some intriguing leads for Civil War research.

- "Union or Disunion? The Issue Is upon Us!" [Union meeting in Harrison County], Clarksburg, 20 November 1860.
- Porter, William M. "Views of Wm M. Porter on the Present Crisis" [Statement of Secessionist candidate to Secession Convention from Hancock County], Steubenville, ca. January 1861.
- "Meeting at the Court-House on Saturday, 19th" [Report of anti-secession meeting], Clarksburg, ca. January 1861 (copy).
- Carlile, John S. "To the People of Harrison County" [Unionist statement], Clarksburg, 16 January 1861 (copy).
- Johnston, Robert. "An Address to the Voters of Harrison County" [Secessionist statement of candidate to Secession Convention], 21 January 1861.
- Hansbrough, G.W. "Circular to the Voters of Taylor County" [Anti-Coercionist candidate statement], 22 January 1861 (copy).
- Wilson, Benjamin. "A Card to the Public" [Anti-Coercionist statement of candidacy for Secession Convention], Clarksburg, 24 January 1861.
- Reager, A.M., John C. Vance and John J. Davis. "To the Voters of Harrison County" [Challenge to Benjamin Wilson's denial of endorsement of Unionist resolutions], ca. January 1861.
- Smith, F. "To the Voters of Marion County" [Anti-Secession candidacy for Secession Convention], ca. January 1861.
- Woods, Samuel. "To the Voters of Barbour County" [States rights candidacy for Secession Convention], ca. January 1861.
- Wilson, Benjamin. "Read This" [Wilson denies endorsing Unionist resolutions], 28 January 1861.
- Hall, E.B. "To the Voters of Marion County" [Anti-Secession statement of candidate to Secession Convention], 28 Jan. 1861.
- Monroe, James. "How Is It?" [Challenge to Charles S. Lewis' sincerity as an anti-secession candidate to Secession Convention], Clarksburg, 31 January 1861 (copy).
- "The Daily Union—Extra" [Fort Sumter], Wheeling, 13 April 1861 (copy).
- Sweeney, A.J. "Mayor's Proclamation" [Appeal for order in Wheeling], Wheeling, 19 April 1861 (copy).
- "A Great Rally of the Friends of Liberty!" [Anti-Secession rally announcement], Fairmont, 29 April 1861 (copy).
- Johnson, Joseph et al. "States-Rights Meeting in Harrison" [Secessionist], Clarksburg, ca. April 1861.
- Johnson, Joseph et al. "To the Southern Rights Men of Harrison County" [Secessionist], ca. April 1861 (copy).
- "Western Virginians, Read" [Reports of Union meetings in Wheel-



This broadside calls upon the "Brave Men of the West" to "avenge the insulted honor of Western Virginia" after Union forces chased Confederates out of Philippi at the beginning of the war. Union sympathizers subsequently referred to the engagement as the "Philippi Races."

- ing and Clarksburg], ca. May 1861 (copy).
- Jackson, Blackwell. "Circular to the Voters of the Counties of Randolph, Tucker, Barbour, Upshur, Lewis, Gilmer and Calhoun" [Anti-Secession statement of state senate candidate], Weston, 11 May 1861 (copy).
- First Wheeling Convention. "Convention of the People of North Western Virginia Held at Wheeling, May 13th, 1861" [Convention resolutions].
- Teter, Joseph, Sr. "To the People of Barbour" [Anti-Secession statement of candidate for House of Delegates], 20 May 1861.
- Central Committee of First Wheeling Convention. "An Address from the Central Committee to the People of North Western Virginia" [Anti-Secession], Wheeling, 22 May 1861.
- "Intelligencer Extra: Wheeling, May 24—1 p.m. Exciting News!" [Start of hostilities in eastern Virginia], Wheeling, 24 May 1861.
- McClellan, George B. "Soldiers" [Order to Ohio troops to cross into Virginia], Cincinnati, 26 May 1861 (copy).
- McClellan, General George B. "To the Union Men of Western Virginia" [Unionist proclamation], Cincinnati, 26 May 1861.
- "Lost" [Advertisement of loss of a copy of the Army Regulations], Camp Mason, 30 May 1861 (copy).
- Harman, Major M.G. "To Arms! To Arms!! Brave Men of the West!!" [Confederate recruiting poster], Staunton, Va. 7 June 1861.
- "Traitors in Wheeling" [List of Wheeling residents who voted for Secession Ordinance in election], ca. June 1861.
- Wise, General Henry A. [Confederate appeal to western Virginians], Ripley, 6 July 1861 (copy).
- Evans, James. "1,010 Brave Men Wanted" [Union recruiting poster], Morgantown, 29 July 1861.
- Andrews, C.W. "Letter from Dr. Andrews to Bishop McIlvaine upon the War" [Minister's report of battle in Jefferson County], 1 August 1861 (copy).
- Rosecrans, General William S. "General Orders No. 21" [Warning to respect civilian rights], Cross Lanes, 18 September 1861.
- [Announcement of public meetings in Harrison County concerning the war], 8 October 1861.
- Pierpoint, Francis H. "A Proclamation by the Governor" [Thanksgiving proclamation], Wheeling, 14 November 1861 (copy).
- "For President, Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi" [Virginia slate of Confederate presidential electors], ca. 1861.
- Cameron, Dr. John and A.C.L. Gatewood. "Light Artillery Company" [Confederate recruiting poster], Warm Springs, Va., 20 February 1862 (copy).
- Tracewell, Ed. "To All Whom It May Concern" [Attitude toward ex-Confederates], Parkersburg, 28 March 1862.
- Imboden, Colonel John D. "Organized and Authorized Partisan Rangers!" [Confederate recruiting poster], Staunton, Va., ca. April 1862.
- "Public Ledger—Extra" [Report of Battle of Cedar Mountain], Philadelphia, 11 August 1862.
- Loring, General W.W. "Headquarters, Department of South-Western Virginia" [List of deserters from 22nd Virginia Regiment], Salt Sulphur Springs, Va., 20 August 1862 (copy).
- Loring, General W.W. "Headquarters, Department of South-Western Virginia" [List of AWOL soldiers from 8th Virginia Cavalry], Salt Sulphur Springs, Va. 20 August 1862.
- Loring, General W.W. "Headquarters, Department of South-Western Virginia" [List of deserters from 45th Virginia Regiment], Salt Sulphur Springs, Va., 20 August 1862 (copy).
- Loring, General W.W. "Headquarters, Department of South-Western Virginia" [List of AWOL soldiers from 36th Virginia Volunteers], Salt Sulphur Springs, Va., 20 August 1862 (copy).
- Loring, General W.W. "Headquarters, Department of South-Western Virginia" [List of AWOL soldiers from Edgar's Battalion],

Salt Sulphur Springs, Va., 20 August 1862 (copy).
 Provost Marshal General for Virginia. "Circular" [General orders], Wheeling, 23 August 1862.
 "Stonewall Jackson's Way" [Poem], Martinsburg, 13 September 1862 (copy).
 Loring, General W.W. "To the People of Western Virginia" [Confederate appeal for cooperation], Charleston, 14 Sept. 1862.
 Loring, General W.W. "General Order" [Confederate capture and confiscation of property], Charleston, 15 September 1862 (copy).
 Loring, General W.W. "General Order" [Confederate money], Charleston, 24 September 1862.
 Milroy, General R.H. "General Orders No. 28" [Decree of death penalty for abuse of black military employees], Clarksburg, 22 October 1862.
 "To the Loyal Citizens of the Kanawha Valley" [Union recruiting poster], Coalsmouth, 7 December 1862.
 Hatcher, W. "Fellow-Citizens of Wood County" [Declines to run as Union candidate for circuit clerk], Parkersburg, 10 Dec. 1862.
 Parker, Parson. "Sufferings of the Twelfth Georgia Regiment in the Mountains of Virginia" [Confederate encampments in Pocahontas County], ca. 1862.
 Russell, Charles W. et al. "To the People of North Western Virginia" [Confederate appeal for support], February 1863 (copy).
 "Direct Taxes" [Opposed to proposed Federal taxes], 9 Mar. 1863.
 "Virginia Seventh Congressional District Election!" [Campaign handbill for John S. Gallaher], Washington, 2 May 1863 (copy).
 Averell, General W.W. "Headquarters, 4th Separate Brigade" [Transportation allowances], Weston, 30 May 1863 (copy).
 Beresford Hope, A.J.B. "General Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson" [British effort to erect statue of Jackson], London, ca. 1863.
 "Soldiers Memorial" [Roster of Company D, 3rd West Virginia Cavalry], M.B. Snyder, Winchester, Va., 5 June 1863.
 "Camp of 5th Virginia Vol. Infantry, U.S.A." [Religious services of the regiment], ca. February 1864 (copy).
 Sullivan, General J.E.R.C. "Headquarters, First Separate Brigade, Dept. W. Va." [Rules for navigating the Kanawha River], Charleston, 14 October 1864 (copy).

Rosser, General T.L. "H'd Qr's Lee's Cav. Div." [Orders against plundering], 22 October 1864.
 "The Soldier's Dream" [Poem], ca. 1864.
 "Olt Ungle Pen" [Satire of General Benjamin F. Butler], ca. 1865.
 "A Message from the Army of the Valley of Virginia" [Resolutions of commitment to Confederate cause], Camp of Smith's Brigade, 10 February 1865.
 Pierpoint, Governor F.H. "Letter to the People of Virginia by the Governor" [Congressional elections in Virginia], Alexandria, Va., 9 May 1865.

OTHER RECENT CIVIL WAR ACCESSIONS.

West Virginia Adjutant General's Burial and Cemetery Archives, 1825-1939. 8 reels. Acquired, 1992. A&M 3137.

This microfilm version of official state records chronicles the deaths and burials of West Virginia's soldiers and veterans from the American Revolution to World War I. The most complete and voluminous records exist for the Civil War. The records provide information about circumstances of the death and burial including place, date, and type of marker. The records also note the race of the soldier and service information. The names are alphabetized. The archives also include maps of major cemeteries with soldiers' names marked on the plots.

West Virginia Union Civil War Archives, 1861-1865. 2 reels. Acquired, 1992. A&M 3138.

The microfilmed records of Union soldiers, militiamen, home guards, and partisans of West Virginia units provide the names, ages, residences, ranks, muster and discharge information, and remarks about the service of West Virginia's Union troops. The records are categorized by unit. These files are invaluable to genealogists. An alphabetized index to the records is available.

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*Captain John W. M. Appleton.
 See story P. 1.*